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ABSTRACT

This collection of papers, purposely written in jargon-free language, is designed to inform policymakers, business leaders, educators, and civic-minded parents about the abiding complexities of urban school reform and the linkages between the success of schools and the vitality of cities. After the "Introduction: Learning from the Past" (Larry Cuban and Michael Usdan), seven papers are: (1) "The Businessman's Educator: Mayoral Takeover and Nontraditional Leadership in Chicago" (Dorothy Shipps); (2) "Boston: The Stars Finally in Alignment" (Michael Usdan and Larry Cuban); (3) "A Vision of Hope: A Case Study of Seattle's Two Nontraditional Superintendents" (Gary Yee and Barbara McCloud); (4) "Fast and Top-Down: Systemic Reform and Student Achievement in San Diego City Schools" (Larry Cuban and Michael Usdan); (5) "A Tall Order for Philadelphia's New Approach to School Governance: Heal the Political Rifts, Close the Budget Gap, and Improve the Schools" (William Lowe Boyd and Jolley Bruce Christman); (6) "The City-State Partnership to Reform Baltimore's Public Schools" (James G. Cibulka); and (7) "What Happened in the Six Cities?" (Larry Cuban and Michael Usdan). (SM)

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